

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-5, 7-10, and 16-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wood '007.

A substantial portion of the Wood '007 application is not 102(e) art because it constitutes new matter filed for the first time after the filing date of the present application. The Applicant has reviewed the provisional application filed by Wood on October 17, 2001, (60/330,298) and has determined that it does not disclose important elements relied on by the Examiner in the current Office Action.

Specifically, the provisional application 60/330,298 does not disclose or teach a conductive stylet that may be supported by the introducer shaft to provide a conductor for cauterization, or a temperature sensor to monitor tissue temperature during needle track cauterization.

Applicant has accordingly amended claim 5 covering the use of a conductive stylet, and claim 10 covering the use of a temperature sensor, so as to place them in condition for allowance.

Allowance of these claims 5 and 10, and claims dependant on claims 5 and 10 as indicated above, is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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